

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference see form PCT/ISA/220		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/B2005/003522	International filing date (day/month/year) 23.11.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 26.11.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC INV. B60R1/00			
Applicant NISSAN MOTOR CO., LTD.			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Date of completion of this opinion See form PCT/ISA/210	Authorized Officer D'Sylva, Christophe Telephone No. +31 70 340-2745
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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/003522

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 the international application in the language in which it was filed
 a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2. This opinion has been established taking into account the **rectification of an obvious mistake** authorized by or notified to this Authority under Rule 91 (Rule 43bis.1(a))
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 on paper
 in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in electronic form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
4. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
5. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/003522

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or
industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	<u>4 6-9 13-20 22-24 26-28</u>
	No: Claims	<u>1-3 5 10-12 21 25</u>
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	<u>7-9 20 22-24 26-28</u>
	No: Claims	<u>1-6 10-19 21 25</u>
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	<u>1-28</u>
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US 2004/227647 A1 (YANAI TATSUMI [JP]) 18 November 2004 (2004-11-18)
- D2: JP 10 264722 A (MITSUBISHI MOTORS CORP) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) cited in the application
- D3: JP 2003 276506 A (AUTO NETWORK GIJUTSU KENKYUSHO; SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS; SUMITOMO ELEC) 2 October 2003 (2003-10-02)
- D4: JP 10 262240 A (MITSUBISHI MOTORS CORP) 29 September 1998 (1998-09-29)
- D5: JP 2000 238594 A (AISIN AW CO) 5 September 2000 (2000-09-05)

2. Lack of novelty:

The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1-3, 5, 10-12, 21 and 25 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT. The reason for this is that document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

2.1 As for independent claim 1:

an image pickup method, comprising:
picking up images (1a) of the periphery (110,111) of said vehicle using a plurality of cameras ("basically 11a,11b");
acquiring a global position (12) of said vehicle;
acquiring a global direction (12) of said vehicle;
acquiring a road information (12) of the periphery of said vehicle;
selecting the images for said camera to be used based on the position of each camera on said vehicle, said global position, said global direction and said road information and displaying (14) the selected image or plurality of images to the driver of said vehicle.

2.2 As for independent claim 11;

an image pickup device (1a) to obtain the periphery of a vehicle (100), comprising:
 a plurality of cameras (11a,11b) to pick up images of the periphery (110,111) of said vehicle;
 a starting point detection portion (13) to detect the display starting point (d1) to begin displaying said images picked up by said plurality of cameras to the drivers of said vehicle;
 an entry conditions detecting portion to detect the conditions in which said vehicle enters said road at said display starting point (d1) that is detected by said starting point detecting means;
 an image range adjusting portion to adjust said displayed image range in accordance with said entry conditions detected by said entry condition detecting means; and
 a display (14) to display said image range that is adjusted by said image range adjusting means.

2.3 As for the independent claims 2,3,5,10,12,21,25;

According to the disclosures of D1, the subject-matter of claims 2,3,5,10,12,21,25 is also not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

3. Lack of inventive step:

Dependent claims 4, 6 and 13 to 19 does/do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which it/they refers/refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty (Article 33(2) PCT) and/or inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), see documents D1 and D2 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.

4. Dependent claims, positive assessment:

The combination of the features of dependent claims 7-9, 20, 22-24, and 26-28 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art: see in particular the

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AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

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documents D1 to D5 cited in the search report.